

## FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19

### Ag lenders unify to address stress



Beth Mobley

The Kentucky agricultural lending institutions in the Farm Credit System, Central Kentucky Ag Credit, River Valley Ag Credit, and Farm Credit Mid-America will now offer the possibility of extending loan repayment terms and/or debt restructuring based on an individual borrower's specific situation, according to Ag Commissioner Dr. Ryan Quarles.

Beth Mobley, a loan officer at the Central Kentucky Ag Credit branch in Danville, describes the new processes in place to help farmers negotiate the financial stress COVID-19 has created. First she notes that, "After multiple years of inclement weather conditions, combined with ongoing trade issues and low profit margins, the COVID-19 pandemic is one more thing to add to the list."

"Our job during this time is to continue providing access to capital through sound financial lending practices," Mobley said.. "We rely on our farmers to produce and provide, and they can rely on us to remain open and operational. Even though it feels like life has screeched to a halt, we won't stop because farmers can't stop."

Mobley said each situation is different and they will

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## SALES CANCELLED/POSTPONED

- Grasstime Partners Annual Bull and Female Sale – POSTPONED
- Bluegrass Campbellsville April 3 Cow Sale – CANCELED
- CKAA Spring Classic – POSTPONED
- Ky. Forage Fencing Schools and Grazing School – CANCELED
- Amburgey Charolais Sale – POSTPONED
- National Dairy Show – CANCELED with exception of Brown Swiss sale on April 3
- All KDA Livestock shows until April 4 – CANCELED
- Licking River District Beef Show – CANCELED
- Honey Depot Spring Beekeepers School now May 16
- Ky. Forest Industries annual meeting now Aug. 25-27
- Ky. Hemp Industries conference – CANCELED

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Tyler Greene of Sunwatch Farms in Lancaster has been swamped the last few weeks in terms of sales – selling out of pork roasts and bacon and having two cows processed for sales during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## COVID-19 KDA actions and beef solutions

With Kentuckians under multiple restrictions in an attempt to reduce the spread of COVID-19, people in the agriculture sector are working longer and harder and are perhaps receiving well-deserved gratitude, if not a wild ride as the markets fluctuate in the era of a pandemic.

Two weeks into the coronavirus crisis, Jim Akers, CEO of Blue Grass Stockyards, said, "We are considered critical infrastructure for the country, markets and farmers. We are open for the business of feeding our country."

"The consumer has spoken loudly on the issue of what foods they believe to be vital to survival in a cri-

sis," Akers said. "The meat cases are stripped in the stores. Many other aisles are well stocked."

Dave Maples, executive director of Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, said Beef Solutions, which markets Kentucky Cattlemen's Ground Beef, is feeling the impact.

"We have experienced an increase in our purchase orders from Kroger and are looking forward to working with Kentucky's beef families and our supply chain partners to fill this need," Maples said.

"It is clear to see consumer preferences because

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# Forage economy in tough times

## Making the best decisions when cash flow is tight

### The Forage Doctor

By Jimmy Henning



When it seems like times can't get any tougher in agriculture, they do. Who could have imagined that a virus outbreak on the other side of the world could in fact shut down the global economy? As I write this, cattle prices are experiencing unusual lows in spite of the fact that people are almost fighting for hamburger in stores, if it is available at all.

On the positive side, grass has begun to grow in earnest. We have had a few dry (or drier) days that get us closer to being able to be in the field. Given the undoubtedly abysmal state of cash flow on farms, what are the proper ways to economize on forages? Here are a few thoughts.

A soil test is still the best place to spend a dollar. We need to be assured that we are applying needed nutrients in the right places. A friend of mine who raises cash hay has contracted to get his fields grid-sampled by his ag supplier. This dealer will precision apply fertilizer based on the grid sampling. In other words, fertilizer application rates will be

adjusted on the fly based on the grid soil test data. This is a service worth checking into.

If you have to limit the number of fields you fertilize, top dress your most productive fields first. You can define 'productive' both as the forage type (high yielding or highly palatable) or soil type (deeper, well drained). You will get more bang for the fertilizer dollar either way.

As hard as it is to do, this may be the time to consider buying some stockers on the down market and put them on grass. Remember that these young, growing animals will be the most responsive to your better forage. You will be putting your best forage into an animal that will give you a quicker paycheck. And unlike cows, where 80 percent of the forage goes to maintenance, 100 percent of the forage will be used to produce a saleable product.

If you are seeding this spring, calibrate the drill. Poorly adjusted drills are one of the biggest reasons for failed seedings. Seeding too deep is usually the main

reason. However, uncalibrated drills can easily put out 30 percent too much seed. Dr. Chris Teutsch has an excellent video on drill calibration on the UKY Forages YouTube channel at the following link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLv6SmqLYIU>). Or just Google UKY grain drill calibration.

One of the best ways to get more from your pasture system is to upgrade your grazing management. It has never been more cost effective to subdivide pastures and to add temporary watering points. Both will improve the proportion of forage produced into product sold.

Another way to translate forage more directly into saleable product is to implement creep grazing. Creep grazing uses a narrow gate or a slightly raised fence wire that allows calves access to higher quality pastures. These pounds of forage are more efficiently converted to saleable product when consumed by

calves vs cows. Limited resources of fertilizer and seed can be focused on these smaller creep pastures rather than the whole farm.

Thinking long term, remember that the largest cost in maintaining a cow herd is the cost of winter feeding. Make plans now for how to make enough hay and better hay. Think you might cut earlier than last year, since stage of maturity is the single biggest factor in forage quality.

And a final thought – I don't know anyone that has not had a renewed sense of appreciation for the American Farmer and their ability to keep food coming to a very apprehensive public. I know I speak for all of the UK College of Agriculture, Food and the Environment when I say we are proud to help you do what you do.

Happy Foraging.



Low prices and a stalled global economy make forage investments a hard sell. High quality forage programs may seem too costly to achieve, but you can find real economy in these tough times.

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**Dairy Steers:** Med. and Large 2-3: 398# 114.00.  
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**Bred Heifers:** Common 585.00.  
**Springer Heifers:** Approved 1125.00-1275.00, Medium 875.00-1075.00, Medium 925.00 Jersey, Common 785.42.  
**Bull calves:** 35 head, 20.00-100.00, 10 head 130.00-220.00 beef cross, 9 head 50.00-110.00 crossbred, 9 head 10.00-50.00 Jersey.  
**Heifer calves:** 12 head 5.00-80.00, 3 head 120.00-160.00 beef cross, 2 head 70.00-90.00 crossbred, 1 head 70.00 Jersey.  
**Slaughter Cows:** Breaker 75-80 percent lean 1465-1795# 64.00-74.00, H.Dr. 1485-1665# 77.02, Boner 80-85 percent lean 1275# 64.00-73.00, H.Dr. 1115-1480# 74.00-83.00, L.Dr. 1110+-1515# 50.00-63.00, Lean 85-90 percent lean 54.00-63.00, H.Dr. 64.00-72.00, L.Dr. 41.00-53.00.  
**Slaughter Bulls:** Y.G. 1-2 1170-2465# 94.00-106.00, H.Dr. 107.00-117.00, L.Dr. 1170-1665# 82.00-90.00.

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# Ag industry saving grace to COVID-19 pandemic

FROM PAGE 1

there was a rush for paper products and meats,” Maples said. “The beef industry has a product that consumers clearly wanted in a time of uncertainty.”

Tyler Greene of Sunwatch Farms in Lancaster where he direct markets beef, pork, chicken, and eggs, sold out of pork roasts and bacon fast and then had two cows processed this week to offer fresh ground beef, chuck roasts and steaks.

“It’s been pretty wild the last week or two,” in terms of sales, he said. He has altered delivery methods to maintain social distancing and contain the spread of the virus.

During the week of March 15, when COVID-19 was officially recognized as a pandemic in the U.S., the stock market tanked and beef prices dropped.

“Approximately 30 percent of the value of the animal just evaporated,” Akers told WKYT.

Ethan Lane, vice president of government affairs for the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, said on March 18 that they were hearing from producers who were unhappy about what they saw in the market.

“We’re hearing from our producers across the country that the spread between the beef price and live cattle price doesn’t reflect the reality on the ground,” Lane said. “This is a commodity that is in high demand and the prices we are seeing on the boards on the live cattle side are not reflective of that.”

The NCBA talked with packers about the disparity “and asked them to bid aggressively in the cash market and to key those bids off of what they’re seeing on the cut out price” he added.

Something has helped, and Akers said he saw some improvement.

“Packers are bidding up fat cattle this week in response to an investigation by the DOJ into pricing irregularities and monopolistic behavior. These higher prices are improving the market for both yearlings and calves,” Akers said.

“The demand for burger is driving prices for weigh cows and bulls to levels we haven’t seen since the highs in 2014-15,” Akers said. “We don’t have a shortage of product but a shortage of truck drivers to transport our product in the face of unprecedented demand.”

Maples said beef sales at the grocery store have been good during the past

two weeks, but restaurants are facing challenges due to restrictions in dining room traffic. In Kentucky, restaurants may offer pickup, delivery and curbside pickup, but dining areas are closed.

“The market is pricing on the impact of a significant portion of consumption shifting from restaurants to at-home,” Maples said. “Advice I would give to beef producers is to stay up-to-date on the most current available information. If you have questions about marketing cattle, check with your local auction market or marketing agent. This may be the time to market some cows or bulls that you don’t need.”

On March 19, the NCBA requested of Congress “that Phase III, or any future deal, provide for an increase in the USDA Commodity Credit Corporation’s borrowing authority from \$30 to \$50 billion, fully fund the replenishment of the CCC, and ensure that livestock producers will be eligible for assistance in this time of need.”

On March 25, the U.S. Senate passed the CARES bill that includes the increase of the CCC’s borrowing authority. At press time, the bill is awaiting a vote in the House.

In a meeting on March 18, Commissioner Ryan Quarles provided information to commodity group leaders on the KDA’s actions. Efforts are being made to help farmers get direct access to grocery stores. Interested farmers should contact the KDA to investigate this opportunity.

The KDA is working to insure as little disruption as possible in the shipping of products. Milk bottling companies are increasing farm pick-ups from two to three times per week to meet demand.

One big issue is finding childcare for ag workers.

Due to the closing of U.S. offices at the southern border, all new H2A applications and interviews have ended. Returning H2A workers will be allowed to skip the interview process and enter the U.S. For more information, email [aglabor@usda.gov](mailto:aglabor@usda.gov).

The closure of the US/Canadian border will not disrupt cross-border trade in the beef industry.

By Lynn Pruett  
Field Reporter

# Lenders come together to help ag sector during pandemic

FROM PAGE 1

work with each customer to determine the best course of action.

“I highly recommend you contact your lender. Honesty and transparency are important during this time as we (your lender) cannot fully address and alleviate this situation unless the entirety of the problem is disclosed and discussed,” she said.

Central Ag Credit, River Valley Ag Credit, and Farm Credit Mid-America continue to conduct business and serve customers, as banking, an essential business, is allowed to operate during the pandemic.

“Employees are still available during regular business hours, with appointments available to those without flu-like symptoms,” Mobley says. “Ag Credit offices are regularly sanitized.”

To minimize face-to-face contact, many aspects of restructuring a loan can be done remotely on the front end. Online

banking tools and video-conferencing are other options.

The Farm Credit system has been in operation since 1912. Quarles commends its “cooperative structure, financial strength, and passion for purpose” and “applauds the farm credit associations for being proactive during this time.”

Mobley cites the system’s history of helping “farmers overcome market volatility,” as evidence that with planning, prudence, and cooperation, producers and lenders will survive this pandemic challenge.

“I love USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue’s recent statement about those working on the front lines of our food supply chain. ‘We’re spoiled in America: you (farmers) provide such abundant, healthy, wholesome, affordable, available food. You can’t telework. Stay at the job. America depends on you.’” Mobley said. “Whether you are involved in

production, processing, logistics, or retail, we greatly appreciate all the farmers and agribusinesses who are maintaining supply. We understand conditions are not ideal, but we remain focused on pro-

viding the capital you need and committed to helping our customers until this situation is resolved.”

By Lynn Pruett  
Field Reporter

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# Providing food during a pandemic



ONE VOICE

Sharon Burton

As the reality of a pandemic sets in, Americans flocked to stores and began hoarding cleaning supplies, bathroom tissue and food. People were uncertain what the future held and they wanted to make sure they would survive possible store closures or an economic crash.

Neither happened, and people are slowly becoming slightly more confident that food and other necessities will be available when they need them.

This is a scary time in our nation. Schools and many businesses are closed, and people are being told to stay at home and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

More than 143,000 Americans have tested positive for COVID-19 and more than 735,500 across the globe have been infected. Worldwide, more than 34,800 people have died.

The United States has now been listed as the nation with the most confirmed cases of the virus, and as of Monday, close to 2,500 Americans have died.

While much of the nation's commerce has been restricted, agriculture is obviously essential to sustain life and continues to operate. Even those operations, however, must follow social distancing guidelines.

As photos circulated showing empty store shelves, farmers continued to farm and the food supply chain continued to operate. The food was always there; there was no shortage – it was a matter of keeping up with the increased volume on the consumer end.

There is, however, speculation that the pandemic will cause short- and long-term disruptions to the food distribution system.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations reports that there are already challenges in terms of getting product from one place to another

and expects to see disruptions in the food supply chain in April and May, particularly for fresh foods.

One organization estimates that local and regional food systems such as farmers' markets and school programs will see sales decrease by almost \$700 million.

Farmers have faced a lot of challenges in recent years, and the strain that comes from this pandemic just adds to the burden our producers are currently facing. At the same time, American farmers are desperately needed right now and in the future as the economic impact of COVID-19 unfolds.

Most of us have had to deal with anxiety as we have seen our lives turned upside down. We are constantly bombarded with information about the pandemic and none of us really know what the future holds. For many of us, we define much of who we are by the careers we love, and that especially holds true for farmers.

Please, take a breath, and remember that the most important part of the food supply chain is you. Not you as a farmer, you as a person. Take care of yourself first. As a father, mother, grandparent, or child, your life is what matters most. If you feel like you are out of options, remember, there is a life on the other side of difficult decisions. Please know that the people who love you would rather watch a farm sell on the courthouse steps than to lose you. Statistics show an alarming number of suicides in the farm community; don't be that statistic. If you need help, talk to your family and friends or call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 800-273-8255.

There is always hope. We are coming together to pray for our communities, our national and our world. You are loved, and you are needed.

## LETTER TO EDITOR

### Vote 'FOR' the Farmers Plan

Dear Editor,  
A recent article emphasizes the importance of the upcoming April 8 vote of grower members of the Burley Co-op. There are two distinct choices facing voters. Only the Farmers Plan coordinated by the Billing Law Group is going to be voted on by the farmers. Growers should remember the Co-op has deemed only certified members may vote.

Past growers – those who stopped growing tobacco before 2019 – will not be allowed to vote, even though growers in the past five years have equal property rights to any voting member. Right now, there are about 1,000 members – so only these 1,000 voters will determine the amount the approximately 2,500 farmers will receive, and how quickly a payout would happen.

The Farmers Plan is a projected two-year payout of between \$7,000-10,000 per farmer. In early February, the co-op directors adopted a plan of partial payout, but that plan would be paid out over four years, and would result in a lot less money than the Farmers Plan.

Under the directors' plan, the Co-op is going to keep \$3.5 million (more than \$1,000 a farmer) to do lobbying, and will spend somewhere between \$3-4 million (including traveling to domestic and international meetings) over the next four years based on its prior budgets. This means our farmers will get a lot less money under the director's plan, and it's paid out over four years, instead of two years under the Farmers Plan.

Both plans would allow continued grower advocacy by the Council for Burley Tobacco. The CBT will nearly double its annual income from our sales checkoff. Several of the leadership of both organizations are the same people anyway – for about 20 years. The minutes of the international meetings over the past 10 years show no motions to better our USA situation by our attendees. And this year we face the smallest Kentucky volume in our history.

To me, it's unethical for the Co-op to keep spending money for the next four years, and then to keep another \$3.5 million that unquestionably belongs to 2,500 growers, to fund a yet unknown "advocacy" effort, while the CBT does that perfectly now and will continue to be funded.

I would suggest and support a new Growers Organization that is self-funded by growers. Certainly, a parting gift from the Coop of possibly \$100,000 or \$150,000 could kick start such a new Growers Organization, similar to our other commodity

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# Market turbulence



## MARKET WATCH

Dewey Strickler

This is giving traders encouragement that the worst may be over.

A \$2 trillion stimulus package implemented by the Trump Administration has somewhat eased anxiety in the financial markets from fear of the economy shutting down. Meanwhile, the grains were already divorcing themselves from the turbulence and looking at other issues.

While soybeans and wheat have turned up, corn is underperforming because the sell-off in crude oil has put ethanol margins in the red causing some plants to close and others to cut back purchases.

Meanwhile, exports have improved over the past few weeks, but the pace is beginning to level off. Inspections last week were 32.1 million bushels and must average 46.3 million bushels to reach USDA's target of 1.725 billion bushels. Currently, they are on track for 1.460 billion bushels. Looking at next week, all eyes will be on the Prospective Planting Report scheduled to be released on March 31.

Soybeans have recovered from their 3-month decline as logistics are becoming an issue with port stocks in China that are at a 10-year low. This may have been the reason behind an initial purchase of corn, soybeans, and wheat in the Phase I trade agreement last week. This is giving traders encouragement that the worst may be over.

Meanwhile, additional support is developing from ideas that port facilities in South America may face slow loading operations because of the coronavirus. If so, business could be diverted to the U.S. Looking at exports, inspections last week were nominal at 20.9 million bushels. Since late November, the pace of shipments has fallen 65 percent and will likely fall further. China took 2.5 million bushels which is an insignificant amount, but it beats the zero shipments reported the previous week.

Wheat as export shipments in Europe have slowed because of the coronavirus. This is causing users to turn to the U.S. for inventory. Additional support has come from grocers restocking empty shelves of bread and pasta because of hoarding by consumers. Exports have improved since late January, but the pace has fallen the past three weeks.

Last week, inspections were mediocre at 12.8 million bushels and must average 26.1 million bushels to reach USDA's projection of 1 billion bushels. We are running short of that mark and are on track for shipments of 910 million bushels.

**DEWEY STRICKLER** is president of Ag Watch Market Advisors, LLC. Email Strickler at [agwatchdls@comcast.net](mailto:agwatchdls@comcast.net) or go online at [www.agwatch.biz](http://www.agwatch.biz).

# Prepare for the worst, pray for the best

Despite overwhelming evidence from literally every corner of the world, a farmer friend recently related to me that three – not one, not two, but three – rural acquaintances had assured him that “this whole virus thing is just a big hoax to bring down Trump.”

If so, there's now 100,000-plus graves, more than a half million hospital patients, and trillions of dollars of lost equity to prove them wrong. Dead wrong, in fact.

The Covid-19 virus is not a hoax. Billions more people have months more of restricted movement and, as that occurs, local, national, and international markets will become more restricted, too.

When will these almost frozen markets – hotels, restaurants, airlines, ports, cities, and nations - thaw? No one knows but plan on the worst and pray for the best and you'll be prepared for everything in between.

What's already baked into this growing calamity is skyrocketing unemployment and plunging U.S. Gross Domestic Product. If we're lucky, economists predict the number of unemployed Americans will hit 10 million in a week and 20 million in a month. If we're unlucky, well, the sky's the limit on both.

Likewise, the lucky version of GDP suggests a 25 percent decline in the April-through-June quarter. Unlucky means 40 percent down.

American farmers and ranchers already know what unlucky looks and feels like. The week most “shelter in place” orders were issued by big states like California, Illinois, and New York, futures prices on nearby contracts of corn, soybeans, wheat, hogs, and cattle got pummeled.

In just days, however, the biggest market driver, panic food buying, receded and markets rebounded to near or above pre-Covid-19 levels. Part of the rise was tied to market speculators who believe China, a key U.S. ag customer slammed by the disease in January and February, was re-entering U.S. grain and meat markets.

Regardless, 2020 farm income prospects remain dismal. Should the U.S. economy take the lesser predicted hit, private forecasters see U.S. corn and soybeans returns clipped \$50 to \$90 per acre, a staggering \$9 billion to \$16 billion

reduction in gross income for just those two crops.

And, foresee Brent Gloy and David Widmar, whose firm Agricultural Economic Insights issued that forecast March 23, U.S. meat markets could have an even tougher time.

First, meat purchases are highly dependent on consumer income. During 2008's Great Recession, “...per capita consumption of all meat... turned lower,” they note and, worse, “...beef consumption took nearly 10 years to recover pre-recession levels.”

Moreover, since more than half of every food dollar is spent on meals outside the home, closed restaurants and limited food pick-up sites likely point to weakening livestock and poultry prices.

Ethanol producers aren't spared either. The oil price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia drove crude oil prices so low in mid-March that you could buy a barrel of crude oil for nearly the same price as two, choice rib-eye steaks.

That's right, 42 gallons of crude oil – from which refiners can “crack” 16 gallons of gasoline and other products – cost \$24 while two lovely, ready-to-grill rib-eyes cost just \$22.

Crude's crash, and Covid-19's deep bite into nationwide fuel sales, caused the Renewable Fuels Association, ethanol's powerful lobbying arm, to announce March 23 that its members would soon cut two billion gallons of “annualized output” from its forecasted 15-billion-gallon 2020 production.

That 13 percent drop in U.S. ethanol production means about 700 million bushels of corn used to make it now returns to the already overwhelmed market as free stocks. Free, indeed.

Ethanol could be ag's canary. While not a perfect example, it is a sign of how quickly and badly markets sicken if some outliers choose to follow their own “It's-a-hoax” rules and not the rules of civil society.

And that's just ethanol; it's only bushels and jobs. It isn't lives. Not yet, anyway.

And it certainly isn't a hoax. None of this is.



## FOOD & FARM FILE

Alan Guebert

Ethanol producers aren't spared either. The oil price war between Saudi Arabia and Russia drove crude oil prices so low in mid-March that you could buy a barrel of crude oil for nearly the same price as two, choice rib-eye steaks.

**ALAN GUEBERT** publishes a weekly column Farm and Food File through the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, events and contact information are posted at [farmandfoodfile.com](http://farmandfoodfile.com). Contact Alan Guebert by email at [agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com](mailto:agcomm@farmandfoodfile.com).

# In this time of crisis, thank God for the American farmer



**Jonathan Shell**

The forgotten farmer has moved to the forefront of the American economy.

For as long as I can remember, the role of the American farmer has taken a back seat to many industries in our modern economy. In fact, two weeks ago, many Americans would probably admit that they gave little thought to the men and women that ensured grocery store shelves remain stocked with food.

One of the many outcomes of coronavirus pandemic is a rediscovered appreciation for the value of our farmers.

Whether it was noticed or not, for the American farmer, this role has been a constant. From the days of mule driven plows and minimal mechanization, the industry has blazed new paths in innovation and sustainability. In Kentucky, this has developed into one of the most diverse agriculture economies in the world, from tobacco to livestock and hemp to chia. Kentucky farmers have learned to adapt to markets and produce some of the world's most excellent products.

The bluegrass state has long been the largest cattle producing state east of the Mississippi, pro-

ducing 1.1 million head of cattle annually. The commonwealth has equally led the way on innovations that are valuable in pandemics like this one. Most notably, the Kentucky BioProcessing facility in Owensboro mass-produced the Ebola vaccine during the 2015 outbreak and will likely be producing the COVID-19 vaccine when one is available.

From medicine to your kitchen table, our country has been uniquely blessed because of our robust agriculture industry. The American family only spends 11 percent of its household income on food, the lowest in world. Most other countries are around 33 percent or higher.

So why is it that even during a global pandemic that politicians and public health officials have been able to confidently inform the public that our supply chain is stable?

Kentucky agriculture is an almost \$6 billion industry out of a \$373 billion industry in the nation as a whole. American farmers produce 15 billion bushels of corn annually, with Kentucky ranking 14th in corn production. We export nearly 14.3 percent of our output to 73 differ-

ent countries around the world. The United States dedicates approximately 89 million acres to soybean production, yielding 4.54 billion bushels of soybeans and allowing us to export nearly 2 billion bushels. Our country is first in the world in soybean production. We produce 32 million head of beef cattle, an area where Kentucky shines, ranking 8th in the nation. That allows us to provide 27.15 billion pounds of beef and export 3.02 billion pounds of beef annually.

A study commissioned by 21 agriculture and food groups across the nation, and published by Feeding the Economy, found that the food and Agriculture sectors employ nearly 47 million people, contribute wages above \$2.2 trillion and that the total impact of the food and agriculture sector is above \$7.6 trillion. In total, the United States exports \$139 billion worth of our produced agriculture products, Kentucky exports over \$2 billion.

As the world grapples with an unprecedented pandemic, we are all equally dependent on the work of the American farmer.

In recent months, celebrities like Joaquin Phoenix and politicians like Michael Bloomberg have

gained attention for their negative comments about farmers. It is increasingly evident how out of touch both of them were. We know that our farmers are stewards of the land and the animals they raise. We know that they are passionate about conservation and have led the way in sustainable practices. All of these things should give us confidence in this time of trial.

This tumultuous time allows us to reflect. We can reflect on the importance of our relationships with family and friends. We can step back and think about the men and women who silently ensure that the necessities of life continue, from the truck driver to the trash collector.

It is a time to rediscover our appreciation for the American farmer. Before this crisis, we may have stopped thinking about them, but they never stopped working for us.

**JONATHAN SHELL** is a former Kentucky House Majority Leader, a farmer, and business owner in central Kentucky. He is the Director of State Initiatives for Pegasus Institute a public policy think tank based in Louisville and the owner of State Solutions, LLC a consulting business that provides strategic and public policy advising for various organizations, including the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

## Vote "for" the farmers plan

FROM PAGE 4

groups such as the Kentucky Cattlemen's group.

The Farmer Dissolution Plan movement has resulted in the Coop membership being identified for the first time since the Quota Buyout. Now – after 15 years of no real action by the Co-op regarding identifying its members - substantial numbers of member are now being counted, all in the past few months.

The Farmers Plan indicates a dissolution cost of less than 10 percent over the next two years. Yet, the Co-op Directors plan will cost the members about 20 percent over 3 to 4 years. And, please remember, the Coop Directors can reverse their plan at any moment as well – nothing requires the Directors to actually act upon their plan. They can change their mind at any moment without legal repercussions!

And if the Farmers Plan doesn't pass, the recent lawsuit filed against the Co-op

by three farmers asks for judicial dissolution will keep churning along, requiring enormous legal fees to defend the same.

It's time to end these endeavors. The Co-op did a stellar job running the Tobacco Pool program while paid by a USDA budget. All that's over now, and it's time to move on with a truly independent grower supported organization and run by remaining growers. Let the Coop distribute all of the money, which is rightfully the farmers, back to them, and do it soon!

I urge you to vote "FOR" the Farmers Plan for dissolution and distribution of all assets that's being coordinated by the Billing Law Group. Let's start anew with a fresh organization. I'll be the first to pay those dues!

s/Roger Quarles  
Georgetown, Ky.

*(Editor's note – The Burley Co-op meeting that is scheduled for April 8 has been postponed and will reschedule at a later date.)*

## Kentucky food supply is abundant

Last week, Kentucky farm families celebrated "National Agriculture Week," but as you can imagine, our annual celebration was quieter than usual, given our on-going fight against the global COVID-19 pandemic. As I talked to members of the media and neighbors to promote the celebration, they bombarded me with the following questions: Are we going to run out of food? Is our food supply safe? How can I support local farmers and agribusinesses?

The good news is that America has the safest, most abundant food supply in the world and all evidence suggests that COVID-19 cannot be transmitted via food or livestock, provided you sanitize and prepare food as you would normally.

During this time of national shutdown, individuals and communities ought to support and honor the American farmer even more. A recent study from a national organization reported that the local and regional food system – think farmers' markets, farm to school programs, and the like – could see a nearly \$700 million decrease in sales. It is more important now than ever before that consumers support farmers, agribusi-



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OF  
AGRICULTURE  
COMMISSIONER**

**Dr. Ryan  
Quarles**

# DHS issues guidelines on ag's critical role

WASHINGTON, D.C. – With the world grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of Homeland Security on March 19 provided new guidance recognizing the food and agriculture industries as critical infrastructure.

U.S. food and agriculture was included among 16 critical industries in the DHS guidance. The move encourages state and local authorities to allow farms and the entire food-supply chain to continue operating as usual amid current and potential restrictions created to stem the spread of the virus, according to a news release from the National Milk Producers Federation.

"This declaration allows farmers to do what they do best — feed U.S. consumers — in a time of acute need and anxiety," said Jim Mulhern, president and CEO of NMPF. "Agriculture is working around the clock to ensure timely delivery of safe, abundant food. That's what farmers always do — but in a time of unprecedented public-health concern, a fully functioning food system is even more critical to national health and well-being."

Among these critical workers:

Food manufacturer employees and their supplier employees — to include those employed in food processing (packers, meat processing, cheese plants, milk plants, produce, etc.) facilities; livestock, poultry, seafood slaughter facilities; pet and animal feed processing facilities; human food facilities producing

by-products for animal food; beverage production facilities; and the production of food packaging.

Farm workers to include those employed in animal food, feed, and ingredient production, packaging, and distribution; manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of veterinary drugs; truck delivery and transport; farm and fishery labor needed to produce our food supply domestically.

Animal agriculture workers including those employed in veterinary health; manufacturing and distribution of animal medical materials, animal vaccines, animal drugs, feed ingredients, feed, and bedding, etc.; transportation of live animals, animal medical materials; transportation of deceased animals for disposal; raising of animals for food; animal production operations; slaughter and packing plants and associated regulatory and government workforce.

National Pork Producers President Howard "A.V."

Roth, a pork producer from Wauzeka, Wisc., said in a news release, "We urge state and local governments to swiftly follow and implement this federal directive. We need to ensure there is a continuous and uninterrupted supply of pork to America's kitchen tables."

Corn Refiners Association President and CEO John Bode said in a news release that during these "uncertain times for all Americans the good news is that the U.S. food supply is among the safest in the world and many companies are increasing the levels of sanitation and food safety testing beyond what is required by law or any regulatory guidelines during this pandemic."

"But we also need to ensure that our government, at all levels, is continuing to work hand-in-hand with the industry and providing clear guidance to ensure that our supply chain remains solid and food is being moved to consumers as quickly and safely as possible."

From Illinois Farmer Today

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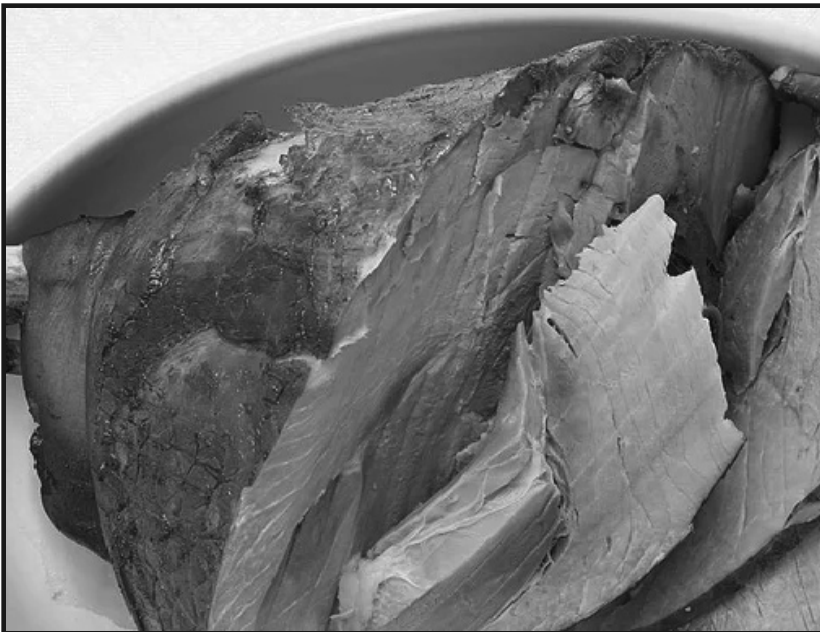
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## THE FARMER'S PRIDE

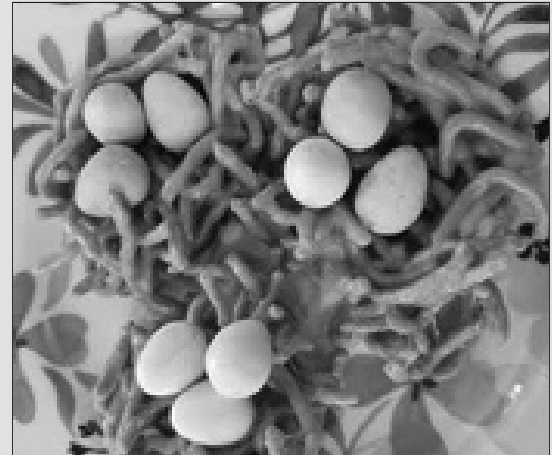


## Slow cooker ham

**2 cups packed brown sugar**  
**1 (8 pound) cured, bone-in picnic ham**

Spread about 1 1/2 cups of brown sugar on the bottom of the slow cooker crock. Place the ham flat side down into the slow cooker - you might have to trim it a little to make it fit. Use your hands to rub the remaining brown sugar onto the ham. Cover, and cook on Low for 8 hours.

## Easter bird's nests

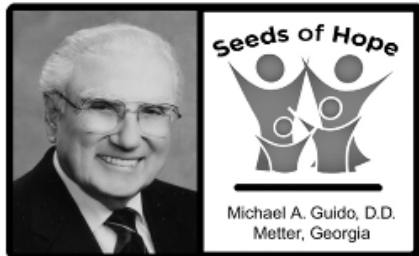


**3 cups miniature marshmallows**  
**1/4 cup creamy peanut butter**  
**3 tablespoons butter**  
**4 cups crispy chow mein noodles**  
**cooking spray**  
**40 candy-coated milk chocolate eggs**

Cook and stir marshmallows, peanut butter, and butter in a saucepan over medium heat until the marshmallows melt completely into the mixture, about 5 minutes.

Put chow mein noodles into a large bowl. Pour marshmallow mixture over the chow mein noodles; stir to coat.

Spray hands with cooking spray or coat with butter so the noodles will not stick to your hands. Scoop noodle mixture from bowl with an ice cream scoop and form into balls, hollowing the center out to create the nest. Arrange 4 chocolate eggs into each nest.



## He is risen

Lo, there was a great earthquake, for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it; his appearance was as lightening and his clothes were as white as snow. For fear of him, the guards trembled and became as dead men.

And the angel said to the women, "Be not afraid. I know that you seek Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified. He is risen. He is not here. Why seek the living among the dead? Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered up into the hands of sinful man and be crucified and on the third day rise again.' Come now and see that place where He lay. (Then they remembered His words.)"

"Go quickly and tell His disciples and Peter that He is risen from the dead, and lo, He goes before you into Galilee. There, you will see Him as He told you."

Some went away with fear and trembling and said nothing because they were afraid. Others went away quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell the disciples.

Visit us at [www.sowerministries.org](http://www.sowerministries.org)

## Creamy au gratin potatoes

**4 russet potatoes, sliced into 1/4 inch slices**  
**1 onion, sliced into rings salt and pepper to taste**  
**3 tablespoons butter**  
**3 tablespoons all-purpose flour**  
**1/2 teaspoon salt**  
**2 cups milk**  
**1 1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese**



Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Butter a 1 quart casserole dish.

Layer 1/2 of the potatoes into bottom of the prepared casserole dish. Top with the onion slices, and add the remaining potatoes. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

In a medium-size saucepan, melt butter over medium heat.

Mix in the flour and salt, and stir constantly with a whisk for one minute. Stir in milk. Cook until mixture has thickened. Stir in cheese all at once, and continue stirring until melted, about 30 to 60 seconds. Pour cheese over the potatoes, and cover the dish with aluminum foil.

Bake 1 1/2 hours in the preheated oven.

## Savory slow cooker green beans

**8 slices bacon, coarsely chopped**  
**5 cups chicken broth**  
**2 1/2 pounds fresh green beans, trimmed and cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces**  
**1 large red onion, sliced on the diagonal**  
**3 tablespoons white vinegar**  
**3 tablespoons white sugar**  
**2 tablespoons minced garlic**  
**1 tablespoon ground black pepper, or more to taste**  
**1 tablespoon seasoned salt or more to taste**

Place bacon in a small pan and cook over medium-high heat, turning occasionally, until almost crisp but not fully cooked, 3 to 5 minutes.

Place chicken broth, green beans,

onion, vinegar, sugar, garlic, black pepper, and seasoned salt in a slow cooker. Add bacon and stir to incorporate fully. Cook on High for 1 hour.

Turn slow cooker down to Low and

cook for 7 hours more. Taste and adjust seasoning. Serve in a large bowl with some of the broth.

**Recipes are courtesy of  
[allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com).**







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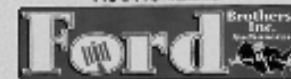
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# Meeting regarding future of Burley Co-op postponed

LEXINGTON – In compliance with Gov. Andy Beshear’s March 25 executive order that no public gatherings occur during this coronavirus containment period, the April 8 Special Meeting on the Petition by certain members to

dissolve the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association is postponed. Written notice of the new date, time and location of the special meeting will be mailed to all 2019 grower members. Growers are also encouraged to check

the association’s website at burleytobacco.com, *The Farmer’s Pride*, or contact their district director for further information. Any written proxies growers have dated and already mailed in will carry

over to the special meeting, unless they choose to revoke it. The association encourages growers to attend this important meeting to determine the future of the association.

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## ***Make Food Choices Based on Facts, Not Fear***

**T**here's a lot of information about food available. Unfortunately, consumers aren't getting the real story about American agriculture and all that family farmers put into growing and raising food. Some of the most popular misconceptions center around Genetically Modified Organisms, or GMOs.

### **What are GMO foods?**

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines genetically modified organisms (GMOs) as organisms in which the genetic material (DNA) has been altered in a way that does not occur naturally. It allows selected individual genes to be transferred from one organism into another, including between non-related species. Such methods are used to create GMO plants and these result in GMO food crops. This technology is called biotechnology. Farmers and gardeners have been creating plant hybrids for as long as they've been growing plants. Biotechnology simply serves as a more technologically advanced method.

### **What do we know about GMO food safety?**

Every plant improved through the use of food biotechnology is examined by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for potential health risks. Tests are done on plants before they are used in the food and animal feed supply. WHO reports that current foods containing biotech ingredients have passed human health risk assessments. In addition, the WHO asserts that no effects on human health have been shown as a result of the consumption of biotech foods.

### **What are the benefits of food biotechnology to agriculture?**

Growing food with GMOs can result in better-tasting fruits and vegetables that can stay fresh longer and are naturally resistant to insects. Plant breeding also results in crops better able to withstand the environmental challenges of drought, disease and insect infestations. By developing special traits in plants, biotechnology allows for more safe, nutritious food to be grown more economically, in more places, using fewer chemicals and fewer natural resources.

### **Where can I find out more?**

Get your information on food and farming from reputable, science-based sources. We suggest:  
[www.BestFoodFacts.org](http://www.BestFoodFacts.org)  
[www.FindOurCommonGround.com](http://www.FindOurCommonGround.com)  
[www.GMOAnswers.com](http://www.GMOAnswers.com)  
[www.FoodDialogues.com](http://www.FoodDialogues.com)  
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# Planning for emergencies is best practice for cattle producers

LEXINGTON The Covid-19 pandemic has reinforced the importance of planning for the unexpected. Now is the time for cattle producers to review their emergency management plans to make sure their operation is not only able to withstand the consequences of the pandemic but also other future disasters.

“Ideally, most operations have been cross training workers all along, especially where animal care is concerned,” said Katie VanValin, beef specialist for the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

“You know that saying, ‘We are only as strong as our weakest link?’ The time to strengthen that link is not after an emergency or disaster has taken place. Have a plan in place so that if one member of the operation is unable to provide effective animal care, the quality of animal husbandry does not diminish. For some operations, this might mean reaching out to close neighbors and being ready to lend a helping hand if a need arises.”

The current disruption is a human health crisis with many people ill or in quarantine. Producers need to plan for all possible scenarios, including disruptions in the supply chain.

“‘What if you can’t get all the supplies you need when you need them?’ VanValin said. “Do you have adequate feed inventory on hand to maintain your herd for 15-30 days? Keep in mind that disruptions to the transportation and marketing system could always last longer than that but having this buffer in place would allow producers time to develop a continuation plan.”

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 crisis is happening during the spring with its often-turbulent weather. Most Kentucky producers are not strangers to damage from severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, flooding and drought. They know how important it is to have a plan to deal with these events.

This may include moving animals out of flood-prone areas when conditions exist for flooding, as well as knowing how to gain access to a particular farm or pasture when floods limit access. In response to events such as severe thunderstorms and tornadoes where perimeter fencing may become compromised, it is important to have a plan in place to be able to quickly contain livestock still on the property. Individ-

ual animal identification practices such as tattoos, freeze branding and ear tags, are an important step that can be taken prior to a natural disaster that can aide in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster.

Identifying major weaknesses on your operation is a good way to maintain necessities for your animals.

“Start with basic nutrition, so animals will have feed and water,” said Jeff Lehmkuhler, UK beef specialist. “Limited supplies may mean it takes longer to acquire. That doesn’t mean you need to hoard supplies, just plan for the ‘what-if’ situations. With spring on top of us, pastures are greening up, so you may not have feed resources as a high priority, but an emergency can happen any time of the year; short haystacks this past winter are a prime example. Buying hay tarps to cover extra hay may allow you to store a 20-30 perecnt carry-over, and it’s a good option to consider.”

Lehmkuhler said it’s also a good time for producers to evaluate how much mineral they have in storage.

“Recent supply issues caused a wide fluctuation in the prices of vitamins A and E, anywhere from 25-40 percent,” he said. “Consider having enough mineral to carry you through a couple months under current situations. For 20 cows and 20 calves, a bag of mineral lasts only about a week.”

Planning for future emergencies also needs to include farm access.

“During an animal disease outbreak, there may be limited access to your farm,” VanValin said. “Do you have space available to quarantine new animals coming to your operation and/or ill animals for 30 days? Do you have a location that is not directly accessible to livestock for trucks and trailers access to transport animals and deliver feed? Can emergency response personnel easily and safely access your property? Is there more

than one access point available, if flooding or fallen debris is present?”

Producers should think about where the water comes from on their farm. If it’s a municipal source, producers should think about a backup plan in case something happens to that water source and it takes time to repair.

“In warmer months, you can use above-ground storage tanks or in-ground water systems for year-round storage,” Lehmkuhler said. “Think outside the box. Perhaps capturing water off the barn roof is a good plan to consider.”

Each operation should take the time to develop or update their personal emergency plan, which should outline emergency contact information for immediate family members, close neighbors, local veterinarians and local emergency management personnel. This plan should also outline basic details about the operation including the approximate number of animals on the property, feed stuffs available on-site, and location of utilities and pesticides, or other hazardous chemicals.

“Each crisis we face is an opportunity to shore ourselves up for the next one,” VanValin offered. “Developing preventative measures ahead of time can lessen the immediate impacts of an emergency.”

Emergency response of any kind starts at the local level, so work with neighbors, county extension agents and local emergency management personnel when developing a plan.

“The agriculture community is one of the most resourceful and resilient group of people I can think of,” VanValin said. “I encourage us all to work together when emergencies and disasters arise. It is important to remember that these situations can evolve quickly.”

By Aimee Nielson  
University of Kentucky

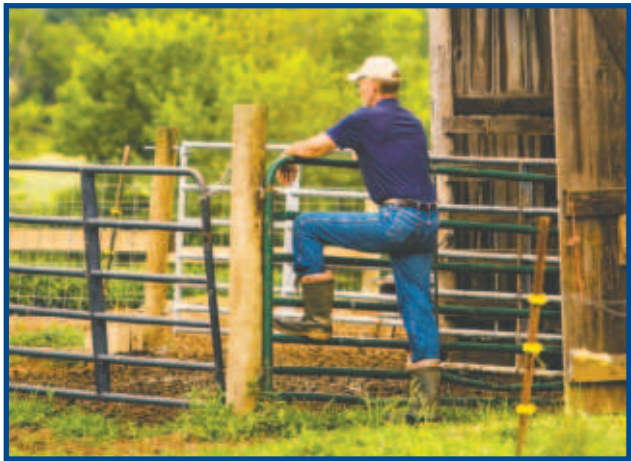


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Weinel Farm, Alexandria, KY  
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BW 6.1 WW 42 YW 67 M 25 M&G 46

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**Lincoln Clifford 859-954-0102**

**For sale catalog contact:**  
**Dale Stith, Sale Manager, 918-760-1550**

# THE SUNNY SIDE



The Official Publication of the Kentucky Poultry Federation and The Farmer's Pride Advertising Supplement

April 2, 2020

Thank you to those of you who have either renewed or, for the first time, joined the Kentucky Poultry Federation. We appreciate the support you give the Kentucky Poultry Federation and Kentucky's poultry industry.

Be looking in the mail for your 2020 Membership Directory. They will be mailed out in May. If you do not receive your directory please call the Kentucky Poultry Federation at 270-404-2277 or e-mail [jguffey@kypoultry.org](mailto:jguffey@kypoultry.org).

If you would still like to join the Kentucky Poultry Federation you can download a membership application at our website [www.kypoultry.org](http://www.kypoultry.org), from the homepage click on "2020 Membership Drive."

## WHERE DO EGGS COME FROM?

America's egg farmers invite you to learn more about where eggs come from and the efforts they make to take care of our communities, hens, and the planet.



## MEET THE FARMERS

As America's egg farmers, we are committed to delivering high-quality eggs and following the highest standards for caring for our animals and the land we farm. See the egg production process first-hand and get to know us better!

For more information go to:

**[incredibleegg.org/](http://incredibleegg.org/)**

**[where-eggs-come-from/#meet-our-farmers](https://www.facebook.com/where-eggs-come-from/)**

## Kentucky Poultry Federation scholarship

The Kentucky Poultry Federation is looking for graduating high school seniors (spring 2020) or students who are currently attending a college, university or technical training program to be recipients of the KPF scholarships. These students must have good character and determination to succeed.

Through the generosity of our membership, scholarships have been established to assist graduating high school students or students currently attending a college or university to continue their education.

These scholarships were created to benefit the children and grandchildren of our poultry complex employees, growers and allied members.

The Kentucky Poultry Federation board of directors and members established this fund to help young students continue their academic careers or receive additional training in another area beyond high school. The Kentucky Poultry Federation will award four students \$2,000 scholarships each.

For consideration in the scholarship competition all application packets must be electronically submitted by June 30. No exceptions will be made. The application can be found online at [www.kypoultry.org](http://www.kypoultry.org) or you can email to receive a copy at [jguffey@kypoultry.org](mailto:jguffey@kypoultry.org).

## 2020 Ky. 4-H poultry contests

The Kentucky 4-H Poultry program will be in full swing this summer. Different competitions will be held with the senior division winners representing Kentucky at the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in November at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds in Louisville, Kentucky. The wide variety of activities provides opportunities for youth, no matter what their interest or ability.

The Kentucky 4-H Egg Demonstration Contest will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2020. The Egg Demonstration Contest will be held at the Madison County Extension Office in Richmond. The first and second place individuals from each district competition are eligible to participate in the state competition. The competitors will prepare an egg dish while discussing the nutrition, functionality, and general knowledge of eggs. The first-place winner in the Junior Division will receive a blue ribbon, and a check. The first-place winner in the Senior Division will receive a blue ribbon, a check, and a \$300 scholarship to attend the National Competition in November. All prizes are sponsored by the Kentucky Egg Council. Registration is through your local county 4-H extension office.

The 4-H Turkey Barbecue contest and the 4-H

Chicken Barbecue contest will be held July 25, 2020 at the Madison County Extension Office. There are junior and senior divisions in both the turkey and chicken barbecue contests. The contestants are judged on their skill in starting and maintaining a fire, food safety, cooking skills, and of course, their finished product. The senior division winners in both contests will receive a \$300 scholarship from the Kentucky Poultry Federation to attend the National Competition in Louisville in November.

The Kentucky 4-H Poultry Judging Contest, T-shirt and Avian Bowl Contests will be held on the first Friday of the Kentucky State Fair, August 21, 2020. Contestants can register online at the Kentucky State Fair website. Rules for both contests are posted on the 4-H website ([www.ca.uky.edu/Agcollege/4H/projects\\_events/statefair](http://www.ca.uky.edu/Agcollege/4H/projects_events/statefair)). Check with your local 4-H agent for the registration deadline and additional information.

For additional information on all poultry contests contact your local extension office or Dr. Tony Pescatore at 859-257-7529 or via e-mail at [apescato@email.uky.edu](mailto:apescato@email.uky.edu).



# History of egg production (part 4 of 4)

**TODAY**

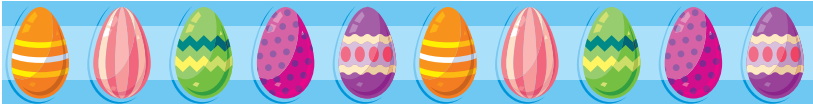
In the major egg producing states, flocks of 100,000 laying hens are not unusual and some flocks number more than 1 million.

Each of the roughly 280 million laying birds in the U.S. produces from 250 to 300 eggs a year. In total, the U.S. produces about 75 billion eggs a year, about 10 percent of the world supply.

Each year, about 60 percent of the eggs produced are used by consumers, about 9 percent are used by the foodser-

vice industry and the rest are turned into egg products which are used mostly by foodservice operators to make the meals we eat in restaurants and by food manufacturers to make foods like mayonnaise and cakes mixes.

Using highly sophisticated technology, egg producers have kept prices low. While other food costs have skyrocketed, eggs continue to be one of nature's best bargains among high-quality protein foods.



By Jamie Guffey  
Kentucky Poultry Federation  
Director

As I sit down to write this version of my app review, we are asked to socially distance ourselves from others and stay at home if we are not essential employees. With natural disasters and other emergency responses like this, Americans are starting to understand what essential jobs are and how they affect our daily lives.

Nurses, doctors, firefighters, military and police are always considered vital personnel. However, with our change in purchasing, Americans are learning how important our farmers, truck drivers, food processors and grocery store employees are not only to our economy but to our way of life.

## Apps for your phones

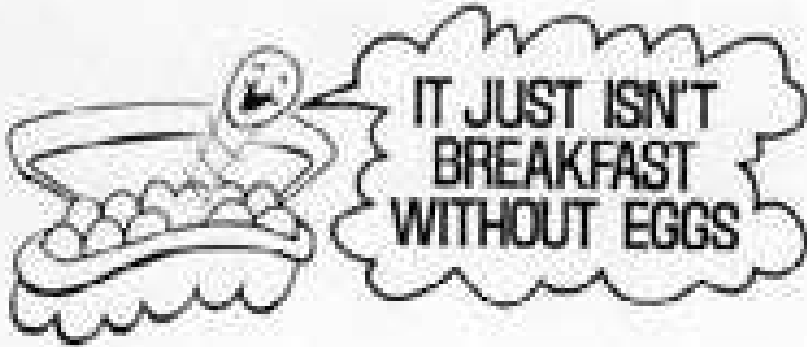
For those of us who have kids in school, many of them eat one or two meals at school each day. Many adults eat one or two meals out every day as well.

With Kentucky being told do not leave the house unless it is necessary, we're now eating most meals at home. With our purchasing habits shifting from quick service restaurants and other eateries, our grocery stores and logistical system is feeling the strain. I bet you're even washing more dishes than normal and your trash cans are filling up a lot quicker too.

Additionally, home-schooling has become necessary. As teachers and school systems scramble to get work out to their students, the parents are trying to figure out how to affectively teach their kids while also working from home. Fortunately for our school systems and parents, agriculture has stepped up again. Many of the non-profit and promotional organizations that work in agriculture are sending out updates and highlights on their commodities daily.

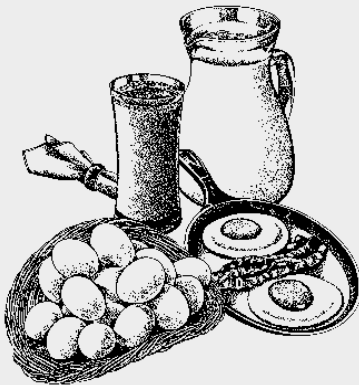
You can find these things on the internet by searching Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and of course YouTube. Zoos and Ag extension agents are also doing a wonderful job pushing out material to fill in the gaps and to help educate school kids, teachers, and the public.

**EM**



### Today's Eggs are an important source of

- Protein
- Vitamin A
- Riboflavin
- Folacin
- Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>
- Iron
- Zinc
- Phosphorous



Wouldn't you love some now?!

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# Educational social media pages

## FROM PAGE 15

With everything going on I’ve decided to make a small change to my recommendations for this edition. As a reminder, my criteria for recommending apps or other educational material are as follows: They must be free, it must be educational, entertaining or helpful around the farm, and it must be agriculture and poultry friendly.

Give these a try: American Egg Board website, Cincinnati Zoo Facebook page, Kentucky Poultry Federation website, Kentucky Agricultural an Environment in the Classroom, and your local agricultural extension social media accounts.

American Egg Board website – [www.aeb.org/](http://www.aeb.org/) This should be your go to for all thing eggs. Search this site for cooking recipes, educational material, activities, and even farm tours. See how the egg makes its way from hen to home.

Cincinnati Zoo Facebook page – [facebook.com/cincinnati zoo/](https://www.facebook.com/cincinnati zoo/) The Cincinnati zoo along with other zoos have done a wonderful job at Facebook live. They’ve highlighted an individual animal each day.

The girls and I have loved learning

about hippopotamuses, lions and even porcupines.

Kentucky Poultry Federation website and Facebook – [www.kypoultry.org/](http://www.kypoultry.org/) Our website and Facebook page post are full of educational material and videos. We even have a poultry curriculum that we developed for the state of Kentucky, free for you to use. The curriculum has PowerPoints, experiments, YouTube videos, word finds and other interesting activities.

Kentucky Agricultural and Environment in the Classroom – [www.facebook.com/teachkyag1](https://www.facebook.com/teachkyag1) This Facebook page and website should be your go to for all things agriculture. From the latest videos about how Kentucky Farms feed me and other wonderful educational materials and activities.

Your local agricultural extension office’s social media accounts – Find, like, and follow your local agricultural extension office’s social media pages. They’re putting out information daily.

Children’s activities, gardening, cooking demonstrations and even walks in nature with Garrard County 4-H agent or watch and learn how to incubate chicken eggs with Simpson County Cooperative Extension agents.

# Eggo breakfast sliders

12 sheets of mini Eggo waffles (4 mini waffles per sheet)  
1/2 lb. bacon, chopped into 1” pieces  
1 tbsp. butter

10 large eggs  
1/4 c. sour cream  
2 tbsp. Chopped chives  
1 c. shredded Cheddar

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Arrange frozen mini waffles on 2 large baking sheets and bake until toasted, usually about 5 minutes depending on the brand. The waffles should just fit inside the bak-



ing sheets. Cook bacon in a large skillet over medium heat until crispy. Drain and clean skillet.

Make scrambled eggs: Melt butter in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Whisk together eggs and sour cream in a large bowl. Add eggs to the skillet and let set slightly. Reduce heat to low. Drag the eggs with a spatula or wooden spoon to create curds. When the eggs are almost cooked to your liking, season with salt and pepper. Fold in chives and remove from heat.

Sprinkle one pan of the waffles with about half of the cheese. Top with scrambled eggs and sprinkle with remaining cheese. Top with bacon and the other waffles. Transfer to oven to bake until the cheese is melted, about 10 minutes.

Serve warm.

# Slow cooker chicken noodle soup

1 1/2 lbs. boneless skinless chicken breasts or thighs  
5 medium carrots, peeled and chopped fairly thin (1 3/4 cups)  
1 medium yellow onion, finely chopped (1 1/2 cups)  
4 stalks celery, chopped fairly thin (1 1/4 cups)  
3 - 5 cloves garlic, minced  
3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil  
6 cups low-sodium chicken broth (3 - 15 oz cans)  
1 cup water  
3/4 tsp dried thyme  
1/2 tsp dried rosemary, crushed

To a slow cooker, add chicken (left whole), diced carrots, onion, celery, and garlic.

Add in olive oil, chicken broth, water, thyme, rosemary, celery seed, bay leaves and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Cover and cook on low heat 6 - 7 hours.

Remove cooked chicken and allow to rest 10 minutes, then dice into bite size pieces.

Meanwhile, add egg noodles and parsley to slow cooker.

Increase temperature to high, cover and cook 10 minutes longer (or until noodles are tender).

Stir in lemon juice and toss in cooked, diced chicken. Serve warm with saltine crackers or top with Parmesan cheese if desired.

1/2 tsp dried sage (optional)  
1/4 tsp celery seed, finely crushed  
2 bay leaves  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste  
2 cups uncooked wide egg noodles  
1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley  
1 Tbsp fresh lemon juice  
Saltine crackers or parmesan cheese, for serving (optional)



Recipe Source: Cooking Classy

# Homemade walking turkey tacos

2 teaspoons olive oil or canola oil  
8 ounces uncooked ground turkey breast  
1/4 cup chopped onion  
1/4 cup chopped red sweet pepper  
1 tablespoon reduced-sodium taco seasoning  
1 tablespoon water  
1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper

5 100-calorie packages nacho cheese-flavor tortilla chips  
1 cup shredded romaine lettuce  
2/3 cup diced tomato  
1/3 cup shredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese  
5 teaspoons light sour cream



In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add turkey breast, onion and sweet pepper. Cook until turkey is no longer pink, using a wooden spoon to break up meat as it cooks. Stir in taco seasoning, the water and crushed red pepper. Cook and stir for 1 minute more.

Meanwhile, open the bags of tortilla chips; if desired, gently crush chips. Add lettuce to the bags. Top with cooked turkey mixture, tomato and cheese. Top each with a teaspoon of the sour cream. Use a fork to mix together and eat from the bag.



# DIGITAL RESOURCES TO HELP TEACH YOUR KIDS AT HOME

## FIND THEM @ WWW.TEACHKYAG.ORG



### Kentucky Farms Feed Me Virtual Field Trips and Curriculum

These virtual field trips take students to the farm with the help of several Kentucky kids.

The original series of eight videos was developed by the Kentucky Corn Growers Association in 2011, but it is now being updated with the help of Kentucky Farm Bureau, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund and many of our farm organizations. All videos should be complete by this summer.

We are happy to have added a field trip to the Kentucky Horse Park and each grain commodity—corn, soybeans, and wheat—will have their own video. Other field trips include visiting farms who raise beef, pork, poultry, milk, vegetables, and tree fruits.

Each of the videos has, or will have, corresponding curriculum that meets Kentucky Academic Standards for grades K-5, but any student can watch them for enrichment and concepts in consumerism and vocational studies. All worksheets and lessons are available for download and printing.



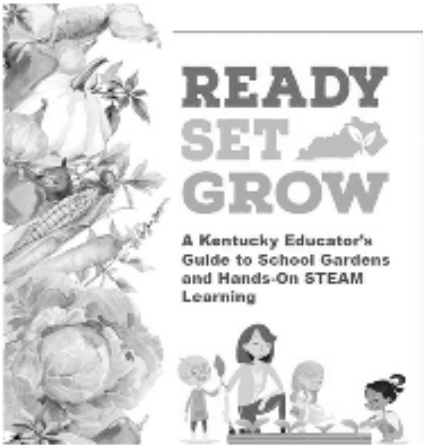
### My Kentucky Home Provides What I Need

This lesson is ideal for our fourth grade students or anyone who wants to learn more about the geography, natural resources, and agriculture industries of Kentucky.

Resources include a digital presentation, a video, and several activities that teach data analysis, creating maps and presenting information.

### Kentucky Food and Farm Files [www.kyfoodandfarm.com](http://www.kyfoodandfarm.com)

Kentucky Food and Farm Files includes many feature articles and profiles about subjects within Kentucky's vast agriculture community. We also feature working professionals to give students an idea of the jobs available in Kentucky agriculture and how to prepare for them. A list of Common Core reading comprehension questions are available to use with all content, and some articles are printable with specific questions. This is an excellent resource for research or reading activities. Ideal for grades 6-12.



### The Perfect Time to Start a Garden?

"Kentucky: Ready, Set, Grow" is a school garden and curriculum guide we developed with a grant from the USDA/KDA and assistance from Kentucky Farm Bureau.

Parents are more than welcome to visit the corresponding website - [www.kyreadyssetgrow.org](http://www.kyreadyssetgrow.org) - to find garden tips and ways to help your children learn science, design, math, art, and more while getting their hands in the soil.

Don't have a garden? There are many activities that can be done indoors as well. A few of our favorites are Garden in a Bottle, Plot Your Profits, and Painting with Soil.

The articles and information in the Pride in Agriculture Education page are provided by the Kentucky Agriculture and Environment in the Classroom. KyAEC and its members partner to bring agriculture learning to Kentucky schools and youth organizations through education programs, workshops, and curriculum development. Learn more by visiting [www.teachkyag.org](http://www.teachkyag.org) or [www.kyfoodandfarm.com](http://www.kyfoodandfarm.com).





# Different ways to support Kentucky ag businesses during crisis

FROM PAGE 6

nesses, and retailers. Luckily for you, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture has developed several resources for consumers to find local food and other value-added agricultural products during this time.

– Have a craving for your favorite Kentucky Proud meal? Visit [kyproud.com/takeout](http://kyproud.com/takeout) for a list of restaurants that source and support local farms, and who remain open, offering carryout or delivery with updated operating hours.

– Going to the grocery store is great, and is something you should do to support workers in your community, but many of Kentucky's farmers' markets will open in the coming weeks. To locate the freshest food from a farmer near you, visit [kyproud.com/farmers-markets](http://kyproud.com/farmers-markets). While these sites are considered life-sustaining and will open, you should still avoid congregating, exercise a social distance of 6 feet, and wash your hands before and after a visit to your local farmers' market.

– Why not look into buying shares of a CSA – community supported agriculture? A farmer offers a certain number of “shares” to the public. Interested consumers purchase a share (aka a “membership” or a “subscription”) and in return receive a box (bag, basket) of seasonal produce each week from the farm's harvest – in

some cases right to your doorstep. Fresh farm products can include fruits, eggs, meats, herbs and flowers. We've even got a site for that, too. Visit [kyproud.com/csa](http://kyproud.com/csa) to locate a CSA in your area

– You can also stay current with other buy local opportunities, like our upcoming Kentucky Proud Virtual CSA fair, by liking the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Kentucky Proud pages on Facebook. Promotions start on April 1 and the CSA event begins on April 16.

Farmers do not get the credit they deserve, even though in Kentucky they are responsible for \$45 billion of economic impact. As National Review writer Victor Davis Hansen wrote recently, “in our age of necessary shutdowns and staying home, one thing we must do is eat – and eat well to stay healthy. And that means a lot of people have to go to work and produce food.” That's why the KDA advocated for an exemption for agriculture to stay open for business. Over the course of the last century, farmers have become so good at what they do that they are seemingly invisible. While many Kentuckians can telecommute from their homes, farmers rise early before dawn and work late into the evening to provide food and fiber for us and our families.

So while it is good to thank a farmer, remember one of the best ways to show your gratitude is by purchas-

ing from farmers and businesses. And if you make a habit of it, you can celebrate agriculture all year long.

**RYAN QUARLES** is Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture.

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# AUCTION/MARKET

KENTUCKY GRAIN PRICES							Eastern Cornbelt Ethanol Plant Report 3/23/2020 Indiana Ohio Illinois
LOUISVILLE AREA: Louisville & Bagdad; PENNSYLVANIA AREA: Allensville, Auburn, Franklin, Hopkinsville & Pembroke; BLUEGRASS AREA: Bardonia, Lexington & Winchester; GREEN RIVER: Caneyville & Livermore; NORTHERN KENTUCKY AREA: Silver Grove at Cincinnati; PURCHASE AREA: Clinton & Mayfield. Opening bids at elevators and processing plants.							Yellow Corn Spot Bid 3.31-3.64
03/23/2020 Bids for next day Cash Bids	Louisville	Pennyrile	Purchase	Bluegrass	Green River	Northern KY	Dried Distillers Grain (\$/ton) 10% moisture 155.00-220.00
Corn #2 Yellow	3.60-3.70	3.62-3.72	3.47-3.59	3.47	3.62	3.65	Modified Wet Distillers (\$/ton) 50-55% moisture na
Corn #2 White		NA					
Soybeans #1 Y	8.53	8.67-8.77	8.87	8.62	8.92	9.07	
Wheat #2 SRW	NA	5.42-5.52	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Barley							
New Crop Delivery Contract							Kentucky Weekly Cattle Receipts as reported at local markets:
Corn #2 Yellow	3.48	3.50	3.42-3.45	3.40	3.57	3.48	02/29/20 14.287
Corn #2 White		NA					03/07/20 15.097
Soybeans #1 Y	8.10	8.20-8.35	8.60	8.25	8.50	8.64	03/14/20 22.888
Wheat #2 SRW	5.16-5.83	5.45-5.75	5.75	5.40	5.65	5.80	03/21/20 9.845
Barley							

Weekly Feed Ingredient Price Wholesale prices, \$ per ton Rail or Truck FOB Location	Owensboro Grain	Commonwealth Agri-Energy Hopkinsville	St. Louis Weekly Feed Prices	Memphis Weekly Feed Report	Corn Belt Feedstuffs Report	Eastern Cornbelt Hog Prices 03/23/2020 Barrows & Gilts Receipts: 8,688 Base Price: \$52.00- \$60.00 Wt. Avg. \$56.33	FOR DAILY LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN MARKET REPORTS
	03/23/2020	03/23/2020	03/17/2020	03/17/2020	03/17/2020		
Soybean Meal 48% Sol	342.10	—	314.00-319.00	288.30-321.30	298.30-299.30	Compared to prior day, wt. avg. prices were 0.42 lower to 0.11 higher, mostly steady to firm.	CALL FARMLOT
Soybean Hulls	130.00	—	—	125.00	—		1-800-327- 6568
Corn Distillers Grain Dried	—	180.00	—	—	135.00-170.00		1-502-573- 0553
Distillers Grain Modified	—	99.00	—	—	—		
Distillers Grain Wet	—	60.00	—	—	—		
Corn Condensed Solubles	—	NA	—	—	—		
Corn Gluten Feed 20-21 pct	—	—	167.00	—	115.00-136.00		
Corn Gluten Meal 60 pct	—	—	525.00	—	470.00-480.00		
Cottonseed Meal 41 pct	—	—	250.00	240.00-250.00	—		
Whole Cottonseed	—	—	—	NA	—		
Wheat Middings	—	—	103.00-113.00	—	—		

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# AUCTION/MARKET

Compared to last week, feeder cattle of all classes were sharply lower with light demand due largely in part to volatility in the global market. Slaughter cows were mostly steady to 2.00 higher, and slaughter bulls were mostly steady with moderate demand for slaughter classes. Heavy rain and temperature swings throughout the region are prevalent as spring debuts and grass comes on.

### STATE AVERAGES

Steers (M&L 1-2)	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
350-400 lbs	152.72	171.25	171.74
400-450 lbs	148.46	162.69	166.28
450-500 lbs	142.81	157.55	164.82
500-550 lbs	137.89	148.86	157.42
550-600 lbs	129.60	144.50	154.82
600-650 lbs	124.60	135.93	143.05
650-700 lbs	120.48	132.40	141.44
700-750 lbs	111.30	125.44	134.73
750-800 lbs	110.95	120.58	130.47
800-850 lbs	102.62	116.82	129.24
850-900 lbs	104.24	116.79	124.60
Heifers (M&L 1-2)			
300-350 lbs	129.02	138.58	146.39
350-400 lbs	127.04	135.87	145.88
400-450 lbs	125.12	133.11	140.99
450-500 lbs	120.39	131.74	140.04
500-550 lbs	115.23	125.09	135.65
550-600 lbs	114.93	122.86	132.32
600-650 lbs	105.03	118.05	127.36
650-700 lbs	105.97	114.33	123.79
700-750 lbs	92.76	111.78	120.15
750-800 lbs	97.61	104.48	117.07

### WEEKLY COW SUMMARY

Slaughter Cows	Average	High	Low
Breakers	48.50-73.50	56.50-82.00	52.00-56.00
Boners	38.00-73.50	45.00-80.00	43.00-59.50
Lean	33.00-66.00	44.00-69.00	30.00-55.00
Slaughter Bulls			
Yield Grade 1&2	72.00-97.00	88.00-109.00	59.00-89.00

March 12, 2020

Bowling Green, KY

### SLAUGHTER GOATS: 199

Kids Selection 1 50 lbs 385.00; 65 lbs 320.00. Kids-Selection 1-2 52 lbs 360.00.

Kids Selection 2 47 lbs 350.00; 52 lbs 340.00; 88 lbs 222.50.

### SLAUGHTER SHEEP: 356

Wooled-Choice and Prime 1 57 lbs 275.00; 74 lbs 265.00.

Wooled-Choice and Prime 1-2 39 lbs 255.00; 95 lbs 237.50; 108 lbs 190.00.

Hair Breeds-Choice and prime 1-2 46 lbs 245.00; 52-57 lbs 260.00-265.00;

70-71 lbs 250.00-260.00; 91 lbs 232.50.

SV GR110

GRAINS	This Week	Prior Week	Last Year
Corn	3.35-3.91	3.66-4.05	3.27-3.78
Soybeans	7.83-8.74	8.22-9.14	7.90-8.97
Red Winter Wheat	4.78-5.65	4.86-5.52	3.71-4.80



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Inspection: Day prior to auction from 9AM - 4PM

2014 KENWORTH T800 Roll-Off Day Cab Tractor w/75,000-lb. Hoist, 258,000 Miles. PIONEER Tarp System, 2,245-Hrs. • 2001 INTERNATIONAL 9900 T/A Day Cab Tractor (Recent Suspension Work Completed) • 2012 INTERNATIONAL Prostar Premium T/A Day Cab Tractor • RIGGER'S SPECIAL RS25 25,000-lb. LP Forklift, Dual Front Pneumatic Tires • (3) CAT, YALE & TOYOTA LP Forklifts to 12,000-lbs. • TRANSCRAFT 45' Flatbed Combo Trailer • 2010 CLEMENT 40' Monstar Gondola Frameless Dump Trailer • (2) Gondola Dump Trailers • 2011 DODGE Ram 4500 & 2008 FORD F-550 XLT Service Trucks • 2012 LABOUNTY Model MSD7R Shear • BOBCAT Grapple Bucket, Harley Rake & Broom • 20' & 10' Insulated Cooling Containers • (2) Roll-Off Dumpsters • Overseas Containers • SNAP-ON Tool Wagon • (2) 2007 TAYLOR-DUNN 3-Wheel Personnel Carts • GENIE GS-1930 Scissor Lift • 750 KVA Transformer • Large Quantity Road Plate Sections • Rigging Equipment



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# AUCTION/MARKET

## Blue Grass South

Stanford, KY  
Mar. 19, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
64 hd. 855# 114.00 mixed  
54 hd. 964# 107.75 blk

**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
59 hd. 720# 107.00 blk-bbwf

## Blue Grass of Campbellsville

Campbellsville, KY  
Mar. 18 & 21, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
64 hd. 752# 122.60 blk  
42 hd. 779# 116.30 mixed

**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
21 hd. 767# 98.70 mixed

## Mid-KY Livestock Market

Upton, KY  
Mar. 17, 2020

**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
71 hd. 722# 111.75 blk

## Farmers Livestock

Glasgow, KY  
Mar. 16, 2020

**Feeder Bulls:** Medium & Large 1-2  
25 hd. 388# 146.00 blk

## Blue Grass East

Mt. Sterling, KY  
Mar. 18, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
61 hd. 854# 122.95 blk

## Lake Cumberland Livestock

Somerset, KY  
Mar. 21, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
26 hd. 488# 150.50 blk  
87 hd. 660# 140.00 blk-charx  
72 hd. 751# 129.50 blk-charx

## Washington Co. Livestock

Springfield, KY  
Mar. 16, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
20 hd. 751# 108.50 blk

## Blue Grass Stockyards

Lexington, KY  
Mar. 16 & 17, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
77 hd. 778# 117.90 blk-charx  
61 hd. 825# 116.99 blk  
58 hd. 874# 110.75 blk-charx  
59 hd. 894# 110.50 blk-charx

## Blue Grass of Albany

Albany, KY  
Mar. 18, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
45 hd. 878# 105.00 mixed  
52 hd. 943# 106.90 blk  
**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
150 hd. 577# 129.95 blk

## Blue Grass Maysville

Maysville, KY  
Mar. 17, 2020

**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
60 hd. 614# 116.85 blk-charx

## Paris Stockyards

Paris, KY  
Mar. 19, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
55 hd. 946# 108.10 blk-red-charx

## Blue Grass of Richmond

Richmond, KY  
Mar. 20, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
66 hd. 769# 125.00 blk-charx  
21 hd. 793# 119.50 blk  
58 hd. 876# 118.90 blk-charx  
**Feeder Heifers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
77 hd. 689# 116.20 blk-charx

## United Producers Irvington

Irvington, KY  
Mar. 16, 2020

**Feeder Steers:** Medium & Large 1-2  
20 hd. 464# 155.00 blk



## ONLINE ONLY NO-RESERVE INVENTORY REDUCTION AUCTION

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M. CST**

*Items located at 1561 Rocky Ridge Road - Cadiz, Kentucky 42211*

Make plans to participate in this Outstanding No-Reserve Equipment Inventory Reduction Auction! Joe Nichols & the entire team at Seven Springs Farms run an outstanding, top-notch operation. This equipment has been through the shop and is ready to go to the field. The items will be located for inspection at a large fenced lot near Cadiz, Kentucky. The gates will be open from 7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. each day.

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**HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:** '17 JD 9470R 4wd tractor, PS trans., 1000 PTO, 1,245 hours; '18 JD 8245R MFWD tractor, PS trans., 859 hours; '17 JD 6130M MFWD tractor, 16 spd. PowerQuad Plus trans., 640R loader, 2,528 hours; (4) '08 JD 5203 2wd tractors, open station, 1,900-830 hours; (2) '15 JD 616C 16 row 30" corn heads; (2) Horst CHCF 45" all-wheel steer head carts; John Deere 9400 2wd combine, 4,294/2,782 hours; John Deere 643 6 row 30" corn head; John Deere 915 15' platform; Shop built 20' head cart; JD GS3 2630 display, AutoTrac SF1; (5) JD StarFire 3000 receivers; '15 JD 1775NT CCS 16 row 30" planter, ExactEmerge, hyd. adjust row cleaners, liquid fertilizer, 6,344 acres; '15 JD 1795 CCS 16/32 planter, Max-Emerge 5, RowCommand, liquid fertilizer, 16,876 acres; '16 JD 1890 50" air seeder, 11,897 acres, w/ JD 1910 430 bu. tow between cart; JD 7000 6 row 30" planter, liquid fertilizer; Unverferth 3750 Seed Runner seed tender; USC LP800 seed treater and seed hopper; '13 JD 2623VT 40" 8" vertical tillage tool; '13 JD 2310 39"9" soil finisher; '13 JD 2623 26"5" disk; JD 510 5-shank disk ripper; JD 714 13-shank disk chisel; (3) JD 915 7-shank 3-pt. V-rippers; JD 910 7-shank 3-pt. V-ripper; (2) Sunflower 7252-37 37" single rollers; Brillion XL Series 30" single roller; Brillion Optimizer 16" single roller; Kneverland 4-bottom plow; Blu-Jet AT4610 25-knife liquid applicator, 1,500 gal. tank; Blu-Jet AT4610 17-knife liquid applicator, 1,500 gal. tank; B-B 1,000 gal. liquid tender; Chandler 8-ton S.S. fertilizer spreader; Loftness GL System 10 Grain Bag Loader, w/ Loftness GL System 10 Truck Auger; 2014 Loftness GL System 10 grain bag unloader; (16) Hitech 300"x10" grain bags; (2) Walinga 6614 Agri-Vac grain vacs; Westfield MK130-91 13"x91" swing away auger; Westfield MK130-71 13"x71" swing away auger; Central Steel 10"x41" truck auger; Central Steel 10"x32" truck auger; Creamer 146FB 6-hole distributor, new; (2) Creamer 6,000 bph 25" U-trough grain drags with drive and reducer; Bush Hog 2615L 15" batwing mower; JD 1008 10' pull-type rotary cutter; '15 JD L330 large square baler; New Idea 6364 round baler; (15) 20' hayracks on running gears; '15 Deere 204K wheel loader, ROPS, 592 hours; Cat D8H dozer, OROPS, rebuilt engine; Cat 815 drive type compactor; Rome TACW-16 11" heavy duty offset disk; '03 Deere 1812C pull-type dirt scraper; Terex TA35 haul wagon, shop built 2-pt. hitch; Scraper hitch for JD 9000/9000R 4wd tractor; (3) scraper cables for JD 9R 4wd tractor; '13 JD 2320 MFWD compact utility tractor, 62" deck, 127 hours; '15 JD Z997R zero turn lawn mower, diesel, 72" deck, 1,477 hours; '13 JD Z960R zero turn lawn mower, gas, 72" deck, 921 hours; '92 Chevrolet Kodiak liquid tender truck, 2,650 gal. poly tank; 1979 Chevrolet C70 grain truck, 16' Knapheide grain bed; 1988 GMC Brigadier single axle semi; (2) KBH 2013 Tender Trailers; '11 JD 6.8L power unit; '06 JD 6.8L power unit; '09 JD 4.5L power unit; Shop built 1,000 gal. fuel trailer, 100 gal. custom DEF tank; (2) Shop built 500 gal. fuel trailers, 100 gal. custom DEF tank; Assorted tires; Assorted poly tanks; Attachments and more!



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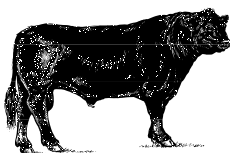
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# NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING OF BURLEY TOBACCO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

TO ALL GROWER MEMBERS:

In order to help protect the health and safety of burley tobacco farmers due to COVID-19 (coronavirus) and to comply with Gov. Beshear’s Executive Orders, the Special Meeting of the Members to vote to dissolve the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association and to disburse all of its \$33m+ out to the farmers, which was scheduled for April 8th, has been POSTPONED. Farmers for Dissolution is currently working with the Co-Op’s Executive Committee to re-schedule the Special Meeting. Written notice of the new date, time and location of the Special Meeting will be sent to all Members of the Co-Op according to the Bylaws.



If you have already cast a Proxy Ballot, it will remain valid. If you have NOT cast a Proxy Ballot, you may still do so using the Proxy Ballot mailed out by Farmers for Dissolution or the Proxy to the right. Just complete, sign, date, and return it to **Cloyd and Associates C/O Emma Underwood, 2410 Greatstone Point, Lexington, KY 40504**. (You may ignore the April 8th date on the Proxy Ballot, but you are encouraged to return your Proxy as soon as possible). Any Ballot not returned to Cloyd and Associates is unauthorized and could end up not being counted.

**On or about March 24th, the Co-Op Board sent out a mailing, including an opposition letter. That letter, like much of the Board’s propaganda, was misleading and contained misinformation. The Co-Op also recently removed dozens of farmers who supported dissolution from its Membership List, and at the same time, the Board added dozens of farmers who oppose dissolution.**

**If you have questions about that letter, the facts of the Farmer’s Plan for Dissolution and complete Distribution, your Membership, or voting call us at 859-225-5240. You may also visit [www.blfky.com/burley](http://www.blfky.com/burley) for more information.**

BURLEY TOBACCO GROWERS CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

PROXY BALLOT

FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS ON APRIL 8, 2020

By signing below, I appoint Roger Quarles, Eddie Gilkison, and Jerry Rankin or either one of them, as proxies, each with the power to appoint his substitute, and to vote on my behalf at the Special Meeting of the Grower Members (the “Members”) of the Burley Tobacco Growers Co-Operative Association (“Association”) scheduled for April 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. EST at 620 S. Broadway, Lexington, Kentucky 40508, and at any adjournment thereof. MY PROXIES WILL VOTE AS MARKED BELOW:

- To adopt the Resolution and Plan of Distribution found at [www.blfky.com/burley](http://www.blfky.com/burley) which shall:
  - Amend the Association’s Bylaws to provide for the Association’s dissolution;
  - Voluntarily dissolve the Association;
  - Adopt the Plan of Distribution; and
  - Designate the Dissolution Committee to carry out the Plan of Distribution.
- To permit the Special Meeting to adjourn, if necessary, in order to obtain additional votes in favor of the Resolution and Plan of Distribution if there are not sufficient votes for the Resolution and Plan of Distribution.

I VOTE   FOR    AGAINST

Please print your name, sign, date and return this card by **APRIL 3, 2020** to:  
**Cloyd and Associates C/O Emma Underwood, 2410 Greatstone Point, Lexington, KY 40504**

SignatureMailing Address

Print NameCity, State, Zip

Name of company/partnership/LLC (if any)Email (Optional)